

Message Text

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21

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DRAFTED BY PM/ISO:MPASZTALANIEC:ML:DMA: MR. SC

APPROVED BY PM/ISO - GT CHURCHILL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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UNCLAS STATE 101154

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SUBJECT: GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS IN THE STRAITS OF JUAN DE FUCA

REF: OTTAWA 1436

1. IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST CONTAINED IN REFTTEL, THE FOLLOW-
ING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED:

A. DOD WILL BE READY TO BEGIN SURVEYS IN CANADIAN
WATERS ON 5 MAY 1975. SHOULD CLEARANCE BE DELAYED BEYOND
THAT DATE, R/V SONAR BELLE WOULD CONTINUE SURVEYS IN U.S.
WATERS OUTSIDE OF THE STRAIT. HOWEVER, COST OF REPOSITION-
ING NAVIGATION SYSTEMS WHICH ARE PRESENTLY SET UP TO CON-
DUCT SURVEYS IN THE STRAIT WOULD COST APPROXIMATELY \$10,000.
THESE STATIONS ARE ERECTED ON US TERRITORY AND ARE USED TO
ACCURATELY POSITION THE SHIP.

B. WITH REGARD TO QUESTION CONCERNING USE OF GRAVITY
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DATA TO SUPPORT NAVIGATION OF COMMERCIAL VESSELS, IT SHOULD
BE STRESSED THAT THESE DATA DO NOT CONSTITUTE A NAVIGATION
SYSTEM IN THEMSELVES. THE GRAVITY SURVEYS BEING PERFORMED
IN THE STRAITS ONLY COLLECT READINGS OF THE FORCE OF GRAV-

ITY IN THE STRAITS. TO ACCOMPLISH THESE READINGS A GRAVITY
METER IS LOWERED TO THE BOTTOM, READINGS ARE TAKEN, AND

THEN THE METER IS RETRIEVED WITH NO SENSORS LEFT ON THE
BOTTOM. THE GRAVITY DATA COLLECTED IN THIS MANNER ALONG
WITH THOUSANDS OF SIMILAR READINGS PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED BY
THE CANADIANS WILL ENABLE CANADA TO IMPROVE THE GEODETIC
POSITIONING OF LAND BASED NAVIGATION SYSTEMS USED TO UPDATE
INERTIAL (GYRO) SYSTEMS ON COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY SHIPS
TRANSITING IN AND NEAR THE STRAITS. YOU MAY ASSURE GOC
THAT THERE WILL BE NO PERMANENT INSTALLATIONS OF ANY KIND
IN CANADIAN WATERS OR ON THE SEABED AS A RESULT OF THIS
SURVEY.

C. IT ALSO SHOULD BE POINTED OUT TO THE CANADIANS
THAT THE GRAVITY DATA WILL CONTRIBUTE TO ONGOING CANADIAN
GRAVITY SURVEYS WHICH WHEN COMPLETED WILL IMPROVE CANADIAN
GEODETIC NETWORKS AS WELL AS PROVIDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION
ON MINERAL RESOURCES. COL. PRESTON, DIRECTOR OF CARTO-
GRAPHY, NATIONAL DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS, CANADA CAN PROVIDE
ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND CONCERNING THESE ASPECTS. KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

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